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Paper No. 12

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ALEXANDRIA VA 22314

**MAILED**

**MAR 23 2012**

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Patent No. 6,158,725 :  
Issue Date: 12/12/2000 :  
Application Number: 09/414,856 :  
Filing or 371(c) Date: 10/12/1999 :  
For: DEVICE FOR STORING ENERGY IN :  
SPRING STORAGES :

NOTICE

This letter is in response to the letter filed on February 9, 2012, regarding a previously-filed fee deficiency submission, which is treated under 37 CFR 1.28.<sup>1</sup>

Petitioner has provided a copy of a letter, accompanied by a return receipt postcard dated June 15, 2011, requesting acceptance of a fee deficiency submission under 37 CFR 1.28. The copy of the letter provided, however, is unsigned.

37 CFR 1.33(b) requires that amendments and other papers, except for written assertions pursuant to § 1.27(c)(2)(ii) of this part, filed in the application must be signed by:

- (1) A patent practitioner of record appointed in compliance with § 1.32(b);
- (2) A patent practitioner not of record who acts in a representative capacity under the provisions of § 1.34;
- (3) An assignee as provided for under § 3.71(b) of this chapter; or
- (4) All of the applicants (§ 1.41(b)) for patent, unless there is an assignee of the entire interest and such assignee has taken action in the application in accordance with § 3.71 of this chapter.

In this regard, while the letter dated February 10, 2012, stating that small entity status no longer applies to this patent is signed by a registered patent practitioner, a properly-signed statement under 37 CFR 1.28(c) has not been provided.

Any papers filed in the USPTO, including a fee deficiency submission under 37 CFR 1.28, must be signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.33(b). Accordingly, it is recommended that patentees submit a properly signed request under 37 CFR 1.28.

The Office acknowledges receipt of payment of \$1,825.00.

<sup>1</sup> Petitioner has provided an unsigned copy of the previously-filed fee deficiency submission, with a postcard dated June 15, 2011.

Small entity status will no longer apply to this patent.

Inquiries related to this communication should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3231.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "D Wood".

Douglas Wood  
Attorney  
Office of Petitions